Ollscoil na Gaillimhe
University of Galway

Scoil Ghnó agus Eacnamaíochta J.E. Cairnes
J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics

Higher Diploma in *Financial Analysis*

THE Awards 2026 Shortlisted Business School of the Year

EQUIS ACCREDITED

AACSB ACCREDITED

ASSOCIATION OF MBAS ACCREDITED



Finance Your Future: *Unlock Success Today*

Elevate Your Career with Cutting-Edge Financial Skills

Whether you're a business graduate or exploring finance for the first time, the Higher Diploma in Financial Analysis is your ticket to a dynamic and lucrative career in finance, banking, and business.

Master Financial Mastery

Equip yourself with essential analytical skills in accounting and economics, while gaining insights from key business disciplines, to become a sought-after expert in the financial world.

Forge a Future with Endless Possibilities

Graduates are not only prepared for high-demand jobs but are also set up for further studies, like an MSc in Corporate Finance or International Finance at University of Galway.

Get Ahead with Professional Perks

All DFA graduates get three automatic exemptions in three ACCA papers *Financial Management*; *Business & Technology and Management Accounting*.

Ready to power up your career? This programme blends essential theory with hands-on practice, designed to equip you with the high-demand skills employers crave. Join us and become a financial powerhouse!

ACCREDITED ACCA PROGRAMME

The Higher Diploma in Financial Analysis is a graduate conversion course ideal for both business and non business graduates.



Are you ready to shape the future of finance? The Higher Diploma in Financial Analysis equips you with a powerful combination of accounting and economics skills, preparing you for key roles in the financial, banking, and business sectors. You'll gain practical, in-demand analytical expertise, giving you a competitive edge in the job market. Explore core principles of accounting and economics, along with essential business disciplines, as you ***build a strong foundation for a successful and impactful career***.



Upon graduation, you'll be armed with a solid foundation of knowledge and skills, setting you up for both advanced studies and a successful career in finance. With excellent long-term job prospects, this course paves the way for exciting opportunities in the financial, banking, and business sectors. For those interested in further studies, you'll be well-prepared to advance to MSc programs like Corporate Finance or International Finance. ***Whether you choose to continue your education or jump straight into your career, your future looks bright.***



As a graduate of the Higher Diploma in Financial Analysis (DFA), you'll receive automatic exemptions from three ACCA papers—Financial Management, Business & Technology, and Management Accounting—thanks to the comprehensive coverage of these areas in your course modules. Additionally, if you opt for AY209 (International Financial Reporting I) as your Semester 2 elective, you can secure a fourth exemption in Financial Accounting. These strategic exemptions streamline your professional qualification process, **gaining a competitive edge in the finance industry right from the start of your career.**

Your Blueprint for Success

Dive into Core Financial Disciplines

Throughout this programme, you will tackle 12 comprehensive modules, ensuring a well-rounded education in financial analysis and related business fields.

Semester 1: Building a Strong Foundation

All core modules, designed to equip you with essential knowledge:

- **Principles of Economics for Business**: Understand the economic concepts driving business decisions.
- **Accounting and Financial Analysis**: Grasp the fundamentals of financial statements and their analysis.
- **Financial Management I**: Learn the basics of financial decision-making and corporate finance.
- **Management**: Explore key management theories and practices.
- **Marketing Principles**: Get introduced to the core concepts and strategies in marketing.
- **Management Information Systems I**: Delve into the role of information systems in business operations.



Semester 2: Deepening Your Expertise

Continue your journey with advanced modules:

- **Macroeconomics and the Business Environment**: Analyse macroeconomic factors affecting businesses.
- **Introduction to Financial Economics**: Study the economic principles underlying financial markets.
- **Accounting for Management Decisions**: Learn how accounting information supports management decisions.
- **Financial Management II**: Advance your understanding of corporate finance and financial strategies.
- **Innovation**: Creativity and Enterprise: Develop skills in innovation and entrepreneurship.

Choose Your Specialisation

Tailor your learning experience by selecting one elective module:

- **Economics of Financial Markets**: Explore the functioning and regulation of financial markets.
- **Economics and Philosophy**: Engage with philosophical concepts related to economics.
- **International Financial Reporting I**: Focus on the standards and practices of global financial reporting.
- **Enterprise Systems**: Understand how enterprise systems integrate business processes.

With this course breakdown, you'll gain not only the knowledge but also the practical skills that will set you apart in the financial sector. Whether you aim for further studies or immediate employment, this programme offers a clear path to success.



Why *Choose* This Course?



Advance Your Career or Pivot to Finance

Whether you're looking to move up in your current role or switch to a career in finance, this diploma equips you with the advanced financial knowledge and expertise that employers are looking for.



No Business Background? No Problem!

This programme is designed for both business and non-business graduates, ensuring that you can jump-start your career in finance regardless of your background.



Comprehensive Learning Experience

With a broad spectrum of modules across accountancy, economics, and management, you'll gain a holistic understanding of financial analysis and business operations.



Tailored for the Finance Industry

In a competitive industry like finance, having this diploma sets you apart. It showcases your commitment to the field and your proficiency in analyzing financial data, which is crucial for many finance-related roles.



Ideal for Career Growth

If you're already working in the finance sector, this diploma can help you specialize in areas like investment analysis, financial planning, risk management, or portfolio management, paving the way for career advancement.

Admission

Entry Requirements

The programme is open to degree holders from a university or other recognised degree-awarding body.

Applicants should hold an NQAI Level 8 qualification or equivalent; IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent, if applicable.

Application Process

Applications can be made here

Duration

1 year
Full-time

Course Fees
Academic Year 2027-28

EU: €6,100

Non EU: €15,700

Student levy: € 150

"I am delighted to have completed the H Dip in Financial Analysis...this course has given me a better understanding of the sector I work in whilst also broadening my career aspects. The course was very well structured and the continuous assessment aspect throughout the year meant the pressure at end of year exams was eased....
I thoroughly enjoyed my time completing same and would recommend this course to anyone looking to progress a career in Financial Services or Accounting."

Graduate Testimonial

Mary McLoughlin

Junior Business Banking Manager
Permanent TSB



Find out More

Further information contact:

Programme Director:
Natasha Caulfield
E: natasha.caulfield@universityofgalway.ie



Learn More:

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Top 2%
QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS
Athena Swan Ireland Silver Award
EQUALITY CHARTER
SDG AMBASSADOR

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